AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for automatically updating business components information, and propagating changes in business components to other business components according to a dependency model, said method comprising:

applying rules that describe how an event affects a business component and that describe when a change in a business component triggers an event to create a business dependency model modeling business components and dependencies between them including compound dependencies, said dependency model defining event types, business component types, and dependency types associated with a business domain, said dependency model further defining how information is propagated from one business component to another; and

responsive to one or more events ~~and/or and constraints violations~~, automatically updating business components information, and propagating changes in business components to other business components according to the dependency model.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further including receiving as input said event types, business component types, and dependency types associated with a business domain.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further including receiving as input rules that describe how an event affects a business component.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further

including receiving as input rules that describe when a change in a business component triggers an event.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further including defining said event types, business component types, and dependency types associated with a business domain.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further including defining said rules that describe how an event affects a business component.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further including defining said rules that describe when a change in a business component triggers an event.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the business dependency model includes predefined dependency type semantics.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said dependency type semantics include a mandatory logical operator that logically couples one or more source components of the dependency to one ore more targets of the dependency and sets the targets to a worst state of the sources.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said dependency type semantics include an "N out of M" logical operator that logically couples M source components of the dependency to one or more targets of the dependency and sets the targets to ok if at least N of the sources are ok and otherwise sets the targets to "fail".

11-26.   (Canceled)

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